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**United Nations
Environment Assembly of the
United Nations Environment
Programme**

**Ad hoc open-ended expert group
on marine litter and microplastics
Fourth meeting**

Lima, 4–8 May 2020

Items 2 (a) and 2 (b) of the provisional agenda*

**Organizational matters: adoption of the agenda;
consideration of the organization of work**

Draft annotated provisional agenda

Item 1

Opening of the meeting

1. The fourth meeting of the ad hoc open-ended expert group established by the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) at its third session¹ and whose mandate was extended at its fourth session²* will be opened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 4 May 2020. Working documents for the meeting will be provided in all official languages of the United Nations, while information documents will be provided in English only. Interpretation into all United Nations official languages will be provided during all plenary sessions of the meeting.

Item 2

Organizational matters

(a) Adoption of the agenda

2. The Chair of the ad hoc open-ended expert group will refer to the provisional agenda (UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/1) and propose its adoption.

(b) Consideration of the organization of work

3. The Chair will invite the secretariat to brief participants on the programme of work, as outlined in document UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/INF/1, for consideration and approval by the ad hoc open-ended expert group.
4. The ad hoc open-ended expert group may wish to establish in-session working groups, and to specify their mandates.
5. The Chair will invite the secretariat to introduce logistical arrangements for the meeting.

* UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/1.

¹ UNEP/EA.3/Res.7.

² UNEP/EA.4/Res.6.

Item 3

Progress update on relevant work pursuant to United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 4/6

6. The Secretariat will provide an update on work undertaken on the action mandated by the fourth session of the Environment Assembly under resolution 4/6 and on the related developments that took place since its adoption and since the third meeting of the ad hoc expert group open ended expert group held in Bangkok, Thailand, 18-22 November 2019.

(a) Strengthening scientific and technological knowledge (paragraph 2)

7. The ad hoc open-ended expert group will be invited to consider paragraph 2 of resolution 4/6, in which the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, subject to the availability of resources and benefiting from the work of existing mechanisms, is requested to immediately strengthen scientific and technological knowledge with regard to marine litter, including marine plastic litter and microplastics, on the basis of document UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/INF/2, entitled “Progress on the draft assessment on sources, pathways and hazards of litter including plastic litter and microplastics pollution”.

(b) Multi-stakeholder platform (paragraph 3)

8. The ad hoc open-ended expert group will be invited to consider paragraph 3 of resolution 4/6, in which it was decided to strengthen coordination and cooperation by establishing, subject to the availability of resources and building on existing initiatives, a multi-stakeholder platform within the United Nations Environment Programme to take immediate action towards the long-term elimination, through a life-cycle approach, of discharges of litter and microplastics into the oceans, on the basis of document UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/INF/3, entitled “Progress on the establishment of a multi-stakeholder platform for the immediate assessment on sources, pathways and hazards of litter including plastic litter and microplastics pollution”.

(c) Work under the Environment Management Group (paragraph 8)

9. Pursuant to paragraph 8 of resolution 4/6, by which the Environment Management Group is invited to engage in and contribute to the work of the ad hoc open-ended expert group on marine litter and microplastics by providing, inter alia, mapping of all United Nations agencies, programmes, initiatives and other sources of expertise relating to marine litter, including plastic litter and microplastics, the ad hoc open-ended expert group is invited to consider document UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/INF/4, entitled “Provisional mapping of all United Nations agencies, programmes, initiatives and other sources of expertise relating to marine litter, including plastic litter and microplastics by the Environment Management Group”.

Item 4

Consideration of paragraph 7 of the United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 4/6 entitled marine plastic litter and microplastics

(a) Stocktaking of existing activities and action (subparagraph 7a)

10. The ad hoc open-ended expert group will be invited to consider subparagraph 7(a) of resolution 4/6, in which the group is requested to take stock of existing activities and action by governments, regional and global instruments, international organizations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other relevant contributors to reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics with the aim of the long-term elimination of discharge into the oceans, on the basis of document UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/2, entitled “Provisional summary of the stocktake of existing activities and action towards the long-term elimination of discharges into the oceans, to reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics”, and document UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/INF/5, entitled “Provisional report on the stocktake of existing activities and action towards the long-term elimination of discharges into the oceans, to reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics”.

(b) Identification of technical and financial resources or mechanisms (subparagraph 7b)

11. The ad hoc open-ended expert group will be invited to consider subparagraph 7(b) of resolution 4/6, by which the group is requested to identify technical and financial resources or mechanisms for supporting countries in addressing marine plastic litter and microplastics, on the basis of document UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/3, entitled “Provisional summary of the Inventory of technical and financial resources and mechanisms for supporting countries in addressing marine plastic litter and microplastics”, and document UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/INF/6, entitled “Provisional report on the Inventory of technical and financial resources and mechanisms for supporting countries in addressing marine plastic litter and microplastics”.

(c) Encouragement of partnerships that undertake activities in relation to the prevention of marine litter (subparagraph 7c)

12. The ad hoc open-ended expert group will be invited to consider subparagraph 7(c) of resolution 4/6, which encourages partnerships that undertake activities such as the development of source inventories, the improvement of waste management, awareness-raising and the promotion of innovation in relation to the prevention of marine litter, including plastic litter and microplastics, on the basis of document UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/INF/7, entitled “Initial case studies on partnerships that undertake activities in relation to the prevention of marine litter, including plastic litter and microplastics”.

(d) Analysis of the effectiveness of existing and potential response options and activities (subparagraph 7d)

13. The ad hoc open-ended expert group will be invited to consider subparagraph 7(d) of resolution 4/6, by which the group is requested to analyse the effectiveness of existing and potential response options and activities with regard to marine litter and microplastics at all levels, to determine the contribution that they make to solving the global problem, on the basis of document UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/4, entitled “A revised methodology to analyse the effectiveness of existing and potential response options and activities on marine litter and microplastics at all levels to determine the contribution in solving the global problem”, and document UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/INF/8, entitled “A revised methodology to analyse the effectiveness of existing and potential response options and activities on marine litter and microplastics at all levels to determine the contribution in solving the global problem and selected case studies”.

Item 5

Consideration of submissions on potential response options pursuant to subparagraph 10(d) of United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 3/7

14. Pursuant to subparagraph 10(d) of resolution 3/7, the open-ended ad hoc expert group will be invited to identify response options for continued work, on the basis of working document UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/5 entitled “Summary of submissions on potential response options for continued work for consideration by the United Nations Environment Assembly” and UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/INF/9 entitled “Submissions on potential response options for continued work for consideration by the United Nations Environment Assembly”.

Item 6

Preparations for the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly with regard to UN Environment Assembly resolutions 4/6 and 3/7

15. Based on the consideration of Agenda Items 4 and 5, the ad hoc open-ended expert group will be invited to identify recommendations and/or options for further consideration by the ad hoc expert group on marine litter at its fifth meeting, to be held in Kigali, Rwanda, on 9-13 November 2020, and in preparation for the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly in Nairobi, Kenya, on 22-26 February 2021. A document reflecting the outcome of this discussion will be annexed to the meeting report.

Item 7

Other matters

16. The ad hoc open-ended expert group may wish to consider any other matters related to its work.

Item 8

Adoption of the meeting report

17. A draft meeting report will be considered by the meeting for adoption, subject to formal clearance by the Rapporteur of the Bureau after the closing of the meeting.

Item 9

Closure of the meeting

18. The fourth meeting of the expert group is expected to conclude its work by 6 p.m. on Friday, 8 May 2020.

ADVANCE